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**CHILE:** President Allende stands to profit from the ill-conceived military rebellion that collapsed less than three hours after it began yesterday morning.

The revolt was attempted by the Santiago-based Second Armored Battalion in the apparent hope that the rest of the military and the police would join. Instead, the bulk of the army and the carabineros came to the government's defense and the rebels surrendered when loyal troops arrived at the presidential palace. 150

Allende may now be able to purge known plotters and other enemies from the armed forces and thus frustrate serious coup-plotting that has been under way among officers opposed to the government. Army commander Prats and other armed forces leaders will emerge with an enhanced public image as defenders of constitutional order. On the other hand, their chances of obtaining major concessions for returning to the cabinet may now be reduced. Allende could, therefore, solve his current political crisis by maneuvering the military back into the government on his own terms.

Yesterday's events may also strengthen Allende's hand in dealing with his increasingly obstreperous Communist and Socialist supporters. He can now claim to have survived an attempted military coup without the aid of their street brigades.

The abortive revolt certainly will be disheartening to those opposition elements who have been trying to provoke military intervention by fostering strikes, violence, and economic disruption. [REDACTED]

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## Chile: Murder Repercussions

The assassination Sunday of former ambassador Orlando Letelier is already causing problems for the Chilean government, which is being generally blamed for the murder.

Opponents of the Chilean junta are taking full advantage of the incident to attack the regime for its murder. The charges that the junta were influential in getting the Netherlands recently to deny a loan to Chile and to support Chilean production actions cited by the Chilean government in depriving Letelier of his citizenship earlier this month. He was also an active lobbyist against U.S. economic aid and arms aid to the junta.

Letelier's killing has played a prominent role in the campaign to discredit the military government. Their major centers of activity have been in Italy, France, Sweden, Japan, and the U.K. Pockets of activity are also scattered throughout Western and Eastern Europe as well as the U.S. Many are members of ordinary anti-resistance movements that spread anti-state propaganda.

Several attempts were made this year to assassinate Letelier. A first attempt was made in March, another in May, and a third in June. Letelier's killing will be used as fresh ammunition.

to coordinate and unify such activities have failed.

The Chilean government will have a hard time ducking charges that it was behind Letelier's assassination. Leftist opponents of the junta, who have the momentum from the incident, are already accusing Chilean intelligence services of complicity.

The opening of the UN General Assembly in New York will give the junta's enemies a clear opportunity to focus world attention on the issue of human rights, and the Letelier killing will be used as fresh ammunition.

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